

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1006

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to recognize Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels of the United States Marine Corps on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those members of the United States military who, throughout their distinguished careers, have served with honor, bravery, and a commitment to duty; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels of the United States Marine Corps, currently serving as the Regimental Sergeant Major for the 7th Marines, is one such individual who, this year, will be retiring from service; and

WHEREAS, a native of Brooklyn, New York, Scott A. Samuels is a 1985 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science prior to enlisting in the United States Marine Corps in March of 1986; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from Boot Camp, Sergeant Major Samuels attended Infantry Training School at Camp Pendleton, California, and was subsequently assigned in August 1986 to Marine Barracks, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, where he served as a guard, Corporal of the Guard, and patrol leader; and

WHEREAS, promoted to Corporal in March of 1987, Sergeant Major Scott Samuels was transferred in November that same year to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines where he saw duty as an Infantry Fire Team Leader, Squad Leader, and Machine Gun Section Leader; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Samuels and his unit were deployed on WESTPAC in 1989 and in 1990 were sent to Honduras as part of a Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF), where he participated in MAGTF Alpha Taurus; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in March of 1990 and served in both Desert Shield and Desert Storm during the Gulf War; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Sergeant Major Samuels applied for and received orders to Marine Security Guard School, Quantico, Virginia, and upon graduation was assigned to the American Embassy, Pretoria, South Africa, and later the American Embassy, Muscat, Oman as a Watch Stander; and

WHEREAS, meritoriously promoted to Staff Sergeant in January of 1994, Sergeant Major Scott Samuels was reassigned duties and named the Detachment Commander for the American Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan; and

WHEREAS, in November of 1994, Sergeant Major Samuels transferred to the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, where he served as an Infantry Platoon Sergeant and Assistant Operations Chief; he deployed to Okinawa in 1995 and 1997 in support of the Unit Deployment Program; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Samuels transferred in March of 1998 to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California, and attended Drill Instructor School Class 3-98; he was assigned to Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion upon his graduation and saw duty as a Junior, Senior, Chief Drill Instructor, and Company First Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant in September of 1998, Sergeant Major Scott Samuels was transferred in August of 2001 to 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, where he served as Company Gunnery Sergeant for Headquarters and Service Company and Alpha Company; and

WHEREAS, deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in December of 2001, Sergeant Major Samuels was also deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in January of 2003 and promoted to First Sergeant in March of 2003 and transferred to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines as Company First Sergeant for Headquarters and Service Company and India Company; and

WHEREAS, while assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, he participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom I and II; upon returning to the States, he requested orders and transferred to I&I Company I, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marines as the I&I First Sergeant in June of 2005; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels was selected and promoted to his current rank and reported for orders with Recruiting Station Nashville, Tennessee, in March of 2006; he served as Sergeant Major of the Recruiting Station Nashville from March of 2006 to February of 2009; and

WHEREAS, from February of 2009 to April of 2011, Sergeant Major Scott Samuels served as Battalion Sergeant Major for 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines and was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom before being assigned to his current post as the Regimental Sergeant Major for the 7th Marines in May of 2011; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Samuels has completed Infantry Squad Leaders Course, Infantry Platoon Sergeants Course, Career Course, Advance Course, First Sergeant Course, Marine Security Guard School, Drill Instructor School, Recruiters Management Course, and Marine Corps Instructor Water Survival School; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his distinguished military service, Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels has received a number of awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star with Combat Distinguishing Device (2nd Award), the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device (2nd Award); and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels enjoys the love and support of his wife, the former Linda Thomson of Edinburgh, Scotland, and their two children, Sean and Kimberly; and

WHEREAS, throughout his storied career, Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels served these United States with honor and distinction, and it is wholly fitting that this body recognize him on the occasion of his retirement from military service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Sergeant Major Scott A. Samuels of the United

States Marine Corps upon his retirement, extending our gratitude for his many years of selfless service and our best wishes for his every future happiness and success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.